

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05315 191017Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----089229 191026Z /20

P R 190945Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2758
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

S E C R E T JIDDA 5315

EXDIS

FROM NEWSOM

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGAS: OVIP (NEWSOM, DAVID D), PEPR, IN, AF, PK
SUBJ: FONSEC MEHTA CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM

1. INDIAN FOREIGN SECRETARY JAGAT MEHTA CALLED ON ME IN JIDDA JULY 18 TO GET MY REACTIONS TO KABUL VISIT. HE WAS PASSING THROUGH SAUDI ARABIA ON HIS WAY TO BELGRADE CONFERENCE.

2. I GAVE HIM MY GENERAL IMPRESSIONS, STRESSING FACT THAT, WHILE KHALQ PARTY DECLARATIONS HAD MANY MARXIST-LENINIST ECHOES, NATURE OF REGIME ITSELF WAS NOT YET CLEAR. FOR THIS REASON, IT SEEMED TO US THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE WITH MODEST AID WHILE MAKING CLEAR WE MIGHT NEED TO RECONSIDER IF PARTY CLEARLY EMERGED AS PART OF WORLD COMMUNIST MOVEMENT, IF GOA STIRRED UP TRIBES ON PAKISTAN FRONTIER OR IF OUR AID PROGRAM COULD NOT FUNCTION ON EQUAL BASIS WITH OTHERS.

3. IN ANSWER TO MEHTA'S QUESTION ON MY PAKISTAN VISIT,
SECRET

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 05315 191017Z

I SAID I FOUND PAKISTANIS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER AFGHAN DEVELOPMENTS AND NOT ENTIRELY REASSURED ON INDIA'S ATTITUDE. MEHTA SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THIS BUT AT A LOSS TO KNOW WHAT INDIA COULD DO. HE DID NOT RAISE ARMS OR REPROCESSING.

4. COMMENT: I BELIEVE MEHTA'S CALL ON ME BELIES ANY

THOUGHT THAT INDIANS ARE NOT CONCERNED OVER AFGHAN
DEVELOPMENTS.

5. FOR AMB GOHEEN: THIS CONVERSATION DOES NOT TAKE
PLACE OF COMMENTS ON TRIP WHICH I PROMISED TO PROVIDE
YOU FOR VAJPAYEE AND MEHTA.
WEST

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 19 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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